ASSESSMENT OF LIBRARY ANXIETY AMONG DIFFERENT CATEGORIES OF USERS: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF SELECTED UNIVERSITIES IN KARNATAKA STATE.

A synopsis submitted for approval of title Registration to
Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women University, Vijayapura
For the Award of the Degree of

Doctor of Philosophy

In
LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

Submitted by
SHIVAGANGA

Research Guide
Prof. P. G. TADASAD
Senior Professor
Department of Library and Information Science,
Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women University, Vijayapura

DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE,
KARNATAKA STATE AKKAMAHADEVI WOMEN UNIVERSITY, VIJAYAPURA

Assessment of Library Anxiety among Different Categories of Users: A comparative Analysis of Selected Universities in Karnataka State

Introduction:

As library is service oriented organization. Dr S R Ranganathan suggested 5 laws of library science. Many librarians worldwide accept these laws as foundation to library science. Books were once kept in closed access in order to prevent theft, but this discouraged free use of library resources. The first law of library science "books are for use" means that books in library are not meant to be shut away from users. Library and information administrators continually face the challenge of identifying problems that hinder the use of library and library resources. The reason might be anxiety faced by users in library. The term "Library anxiety" was first coined by Mellon in 1986. "Library anxiety is feeling of fear, confusion, helplessness and sense of being lost, which stemmed from library size, lack of knowledge regarding the organization of materials, not knowing how to begin and what to do" (Constance Mellon). Users who exposed to library for very first time, users who have lack of knowledge about library, library resources and library services get anxious towards library. This study has been carried out to know the reason for not using library, to measure the level of library anxiety, to know what are all the factors that are affecting users anxiousness towards library, to overcome this psychological factor in order to increase the usage of library.

Need for the study:

Library anxiety is the major factor that leads users to avoidance of library usage, because of their psychological factors. Several studies were conducted in developing countries on library anxiety among users at various level, various tools and scales were developed to measure library anxiety among users at various level. Anxiety in library environment is common phenomenon among users of university libraries in Karnataka state too. Reviewing of available literature in library and information science shows only few studies were conducted among users of university libraries.

With the increased use of the Internet in libraries in academic world as well as behaviour dependence on libraries to serve academic curriculum, Library anxiety may be serious problems that can weaken student's development. As many electronic resources were coming, print version usage is decreased and electronic usage is increased among higher education students. In this digital era to meet users need and promote library usage in university libraries. To overcome this fact, study is undertaken to assess the level of anxiety faced by users in university level of Karnataka state which leads to increase in usage of library.

Statement of problem:

"Assessment of Library anxiety among different categories of users: A comparative analysis of selected universities in Karnataka State".

Review of Literature:

Doris, Provata and Vraimaki (2015) presented a finding on level of library anxiety using Greek version of library anxiety scale among 279 undergraduate students. The study showed that female students experience low level of anxiety compared to male students. Students prefer to use google or other search engines for conducting research for coursework assignments due to library avoidance behaviour.

Biglu and others (2016) conducted study on library anxiety and big five factors (neuroticism, extraversion, openness to experience, agreeableness and conscientiousness) among 580 students of Ardabil university. Their study indicated that anxiety reduced with increasing level of education and library anxiety increased with increasing educational semesters.

Wildemuth (2017) has conducted study on library anxiety among college students using library anxiety scale developed by Bostick. The study revealed that many students experience library anxiety, the study recommended that many students experience anxiety when they were exposed to library for very first time, so library instruction should be introduced at high school level and in college incorporated into classes that require library research in order to reduce anxiety level.

Sharma and Attri (2018) investigated library anxiety in teacher trainees of B Ed college of Rohtak District in Haryana. The study identified 5 dimensional barriers of library anxiety namely, barriers with staff, affective barriers, comfort with library, knowledge of library and mechanical barriers. Library anxiety was more in teacher trainees from rural background than teacher trainees from urban background.

Azami, Sajjadi and Borang (2018) investigated the library anxiety and electronic sources anxiety among the 291 postgraduate students of medical science. The study revealed the library anxiety has high in the age group of 18-20. The study also showed that library anxiety is high among faculty of engineering and chemistry and least in faculty of humanities and naval sciences. The study recommended that library should make arrangements to familiarize students about library usage and resources by holding lectures, workshops.

Agbonavbare, Egbochuku and Adeleke (2021) investigated the relationship between affective tendency, sex and library anxiety among undergraduate students using Affective Tendency and Library Anxiety Scale (ATLAS) adopted from Bostick. The study showed that male students are more anxious towards library than female students. The study showed that students with less information literacy skills, technological barrier are more anxious in library environment The study suggested that proper library orientation program can reduce library anxiety among students.

Lateef (2022) investigated the cause of library anxiety among first year students of crawford university. The study revealed that noise inside the library, lack of library awareness, poor arrangement of the library, lack of cleanliness, library staff irritability, inability to borrow books out of the library, slow internet service among others are the major barriers that cause Library Anxiety among first year students of Crawford University.

Agalya and others (2022) conducted survey -based study to measure relationship between emotional intelligence, Library anxiety and academic performance of post graduate students.

The study confirmed the existence of library anxiety among post graduate students while getting exposed to library for first time and Students who are emotionally intelligent are library anxious, students who manage their own emotions in a better way possess the ability to manage technological and infrastructure related anxiety.

Khan and Naveed (2022) investigated on information seeking anxiety in Pakistani business students and results showed that students felt mild level to moderate level of anxiety while accessing information because of their low self-efficacy for information literacy. The study also suggested that there is a need for provision of a need-based information literacy instruction program by university libraries in collaboration with quality enhancement cells.

Gardijan (2023) has conducted study on library anxiety using creation library anxiety scale (CRO-LAS) and revealed library anxiety level of students is less and varies depending on category and students experience higher level of anxiety when concerning IT equipment and resources in library. Undergraduate students experienced higher level compared to graduate students.

The literature review indicates that there is a huge dearth for studies in the Indian context. Hence the study is undertaken.

Objectives:

1. To make comparison of level of library anxiety among different university library users.
2. To evaluate role of library instruction session to reduce library anxiety.
3. To evaluate difference in level of library anxiety among different categories of users i.e., PG students and Research scholars.
4. To explore and describe experiences, psychological factors and behavioural attributes of library anxiety.
5. To identify the factors that influences the library anxiety among users.
6. To compare library anxiety with respect to demographic variables

Hypothesis:

Hypothesis 1

H_1: There is significant difference between Male and Female respondents with respect Library Anxiety.

Hypothesis 2

H_1: There is significant difference between Rural and Urban respondents with respect to Library Anxiety.

Hypothesis 3

H_1: There is significant difference Student and Research Student with respect to Library Anxiety.

Hypothesis 4

H_1: There is significant difference between Library Orientation Session Attendees and Non

attendees with respect to Library Anxiety.

Hypothesis 5

H_1: There exists an associatonship between Universities and Library Anxiety among Users.

Methodology:

The present study is intended to study the perceived library anxiety among the selected university library users and so **descriptive survey method** is adopted for the study.

Population of the Study:

The study population comprises library users from 11 universities in Karnataka State established before 2010.

1. University of Mysore, Mysuru - 1916
2. Karnatak University, Dharwad - 1949
3. Bangalore University, Bengaluru - 1964
4. Gulbarga University, Kalaburagi - 1980
5. Mangalore University, Mangaluru - 1980
6. Kuvempu University, Shimoga - 1987
7. Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women University, Vijayapura - 2003
8. Tumkur University, Tumakuru - 2004
9. Davanagere University, Davanagere - 2009
10. Rani Channamma University, Belagavi - 2010
11. Vijayanagara Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Ballari - 2010

Sample for the Study:

Respondents for the present study consist of post graduate students and research scholars from selected universities of Karnataka state. Selection of these samples will be carried out using **random sampling** technique by giving due representation to all categories of variables under study.

Tools Used for the Study:

Structured Questionnaire will be framed to collect research data. Each of these statements is rated on a five-point scale of Likert type. Low score on the statement shows the perceived anxiety is low and high value shows more library anxiety. Collected data will be analysed using the statistics tool like 't' test and ANOVA and hypotheses will be tested at 0.05 level of significance. The calculations will be carried out using statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) and MS- excel.

Scope and Limitation:

The scope of the present study is to assess the library anxiety among different categories users. This study focuses on assessment, examining, evaluating library anxiety level and factors affecting users in library anxiety.

Since the inception of minimal needs program, A library has been viewed as a place for learning outside of the classroom. In this point of view, improvements are needed in library to overcome library anxiety among users. So here an attempt has made to investigate the library anxiety level among different categories of user among selected university Libraries. To avail the services which helps user to overcome the library anxiety and barriers related to psychological factors affecting anxiety in library environment. Therefore keeping all these aspects in mind research has undertaken by researcher under esteem guidance of expert by choosing a topic entitled "Assessment of Library anxiety among different categories of users: A comparative analysis of selected Universities in Karnataka State".

Operational Definitions:

Library:

In this study Library is, building or room containing of books, periodicals and other reading materials organized for reading, consultation, study, research etc.

Anxiety:

In this study anxiety is stressful situation or uncomfortable feeling of nervousness or worry about something that is happening or might happen in future.

Library Anxiety:

"Library Anxiety is characterized by negative emotions including tension, fear, feelings of uncertainty and helplessness, negative self-defeating thoughts and mental disorganization that are experienced in the library setting."- (Swigon M 2011)

Significance:

The results of this study will be used to frame policies regarding library promotion, user services, user care, user relations and will be applied on public relations of library. The finding of this study can provide useful information to understand the nature and characteristics of

Library anxious students and how anxiety affect among national and international students in higher education of India.

Time Framework:

Year wise plan of work and targets to be achieved are as below:

1. Year First:

- Literature Survey and Course Work completion.
- Questionnaire preparation and pilot test.
- Article Publication

2. Year Second:

- Literature survey.
- Data collection and data analysis.
- Article Publication

3. Year Third:

- Writing of the thesis, proposed plan, findings and report writing.
- Article Publication.
- Thesis Submission.

Chapterization:

Chapter – I

Introduction

Chapter – II

Research Design and Methodology

Chapter – III

Review of Related Literature

Chapter – IV

Analysis Interpretation and Presentation of data

Chapter – V

Findings and Suggestions and Conclusion

Bibliography

Appendices'

References:

- Agalya. A; Singson, M; Thiyagarajan, S; and Gogoi, T; (2022), Investigating the relationship between emotional intelligence, Library anxiety and academic performance of post graduate students. ***SRELS Journal of Information Management*****,** 59(5) 295-306. DOI: 10.17821/srels/2022/v59i5/170654
- Azami, M; Sajjad, M S and Borang M A (2018), Investigating the library and electronic sources anxiety among post graduate students at kerman university of medical sciences. ***J Biotechem Tech****,* Special issue (2) 116-122. ISSN: 0974-2328.
- Biglu, M H; Ghovami M and Dadashpour (2016) Big Five Personality Factors and Library Anxiety. ***Journal of Behavioral and Brain Science***, 6, 377-385. http://dx.doi.org/10.4236/jbbs.2016.69036
- Doris, A K; Provata, A P; et.al., (2015) Library Anxiety among undergraduate students in Greece. ***International Journal on Integrated Information Management***, 25-37. DOI: 10.15556/IJIIM.02.02.003
- Gardijan, N(2023) Library anxiety among creation students: Construction, Validation and Application of Croation- Library Anxiety Scale (CRO-LAS). *The* ***Journal of Academic Librarianship***, 49(3), 102687
- Khan S., Naveed M A (2022) Relationship of business students information-seeking anxiety with socio-academic variables in digital environment. ***Information Discovery and Delivery***, DOI: 10.1108/IDD-03-2022-0024.
- Lateef, E B (2022) Investigating Library Anxiety among First Year Students of Crawford University, Nigeria. ***Library Philosophy & Practice.*** 1-15
- Mellon, C.A. (1986), "Library anxiety: a grounded theory and its development", College and Research Libraries, Vol. 47 No. 2, pp. 160-5.
- Prakash P (2018), Library and Internet related anxiety among postgraduate students of social science and pure science in central universities of uttar Pradesh: A study, **Thesis,** ***https://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/***
- Sharma S and Attri P (2018) Library Anxiety of Teacher Trainees. Manager's ***Journal on Educational Psychology*** 11(3), 21-24
- Swigon M (2011), Library anxiety among Polish students: Development and validation of the polish library anxiety scale. ***Library and Information science Research – Elsevier****,* 33(2), 144-150.
- Wildemuth B (2017) Library Anxiety Impedes College Students' Library Use, but May Be Alleviated Through Improved Bibliographic Instruction. ***Evidence based library and information practice.*** 12(4) 75-80